# **Building Parent Engagement Programs**

at Green Dot Public Schools



A Theory and Practice for Community Change **2013 Annual Report** 

C Parental involvement is associated with higher student achievement outcomes.



### **Table of Contents**

Introduction: Helping Parents Make an Impact	1
Parents as Partners in Our Mission	2
Why Parent Engagement Matters	3
A Strategy to Make a Lasting Impact	4
Building Capital in the Communities We Serve	6
By the Numbers	7
Programs Available to All Green Dot Schools	9
Community Organizing Programs	11
School Specific Programs	13
The Community Engagement Team	19
Partners	20

### Helping Parents Make an Impact

Our mission at Green Dot is to transform public education. To make this happen, we must engage parents in their children's education in a continuous, substantive way.

Recent independent studies<sup>1</sup> illustrate the significant public safety, social and economic challenges faced by the communities we serve.

Since the 2011-12 academic year, the Community Engagement Team (CET) has been working with parents to help them develop a strong voice in their children's education and in their communities.

From attending workshops on how to create a positive educational environment for their children both at home and at school to meeting with elected officials to improve public safety, the CET at Green Dot has developed a range of programs to help parents make a greater impact in their community.

The number of parents taking part in these programs has grown over the past two years. Last year, more than 2,500 Green Dot parents attended a workshop or event designed to boost their engagement in the education process. Nearly 1,000 parents attended three or more of these workshops or events.

This report is designed to explain both the theory and practice of helping parents and families develop the tools necessary to advocate for their communities and drive education reform.

While our teachers, administrators, counselors and staff are doing all they can inside the classroom, we are helping parents address the issues they and their children face outside of the classroom that affect learning and their lives as a whole.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Portrait of California 2011 by the American Human Development Project, Community Safety Scorecard: City of Los Angeles 2011, a report by the Advancement Project's Urban Peace & Healthy City programs and the Violence Prevention Coalition

### Parents as Partners in Our Mission



Green Dot Public Schools believes not only in transforming schools, but also in transforming families and communities as well.

The students we serve do not study, struggle or succeed alone. They do so together with their families, whose fates are all entwined.

Unemployment, low wages, long hours, lack of access to healthcare, substandard housing, high crime rates – all of these issues have an effect on a student's ability to learn and achieve in school.

Just as we assert our unwavering belief in all students' potential, we must also proclaim our unwavering belief in the potential and possibilities of all our students' parents. The Green Dot Public Schools CET is systematically training and empowering parents in the high-need communities Green Dot serves to become a force for positive change in the lives of their children and the larger school community.

### Why Parent Engagement Matters



Engaging parents and the wider community is an essential component of the Green Dot model. The importance of an active and supportive community is well founded. The *No Child Left Behind Act* (2002) defines parental engagement as the "participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication" and goes on to provide the concrete expectations that are a requirement of receiving Title I federal funding.

The Harvard Family Research Project, which looked at the results of 77 separate studies of parent involvement, found that:

Parental involvement is associated with higher student achievement outcomes. These findings emerged consistently whether the outcome measures were grades, standardized test scores, or a variety of other measures, including teacher ratings.

Parental Effort, School Resources, and Student Achievement, a 2008 study conducted by researchers at the University of New Hampshire, went so far as to quantify the impact of parental engagement:

Parental effort is consistently associated with higher levels of achievement, and the magnitude of the effect of parental effort is substantial. We found that schools would need to increase per-pupil spending by more than \$1,000 in order to achieve the same results that are gained with parental involvement.

### A Strategy to Make a Lasting Impact



Effective parent and community engagement involves more than asking parents into the classroom to do chores. A comprehensive and multi-faceted approach to engagement is required.

Over 20 years ago, Dr. Joyce Epstein, Director of the Center on School, Family, and Community Partnerships at Johns Hopkins University, provided a model of multi-dimensional participation that is the starting point of Green Dot's parental engagement strategy:

- Assist families with parenting skills and understanding child development;
- Communicate with families about school programs and student progress;
- Invite families into the life of the school as volunteers;
- Involve families with their children in academic learning at home;
- Involve families as participants in school decision-making; and
- Coordinate community resources and services for families.

Green Dot has added a seventh component: Organizing families to wield power.

The union of parental outreach, engagement, and organization represented by this strategy strengthens families, schools, and community.

Green Dot believes the primary reason low income parents do not participate more fully in their children's education is a lack of confidence in their own "public life" skills. By believing their voice doesn't matter, parents shy away from getting involved.

In communities with no history of college success, where a majority of adults failed to graduate high school, this false belief is compounded by alienation from public institutions due to barriers of language and culture.

Green Dot is showing parents they have a right to a public life by equipping them with the skills needed to actively engage in the public arena and make their voice heard. By inspiring parents to re-evaluate their lives and the life trajectories of their children, parents are empowered to become their children's primary role model and advocate.

Green Dot's approach to parent engagement possesses several aligned objectives:

- Develop self-belief, personal accountability, and a realization that college success is achievable.
- Educate and empower community members to become advocates for positive change.
- Increase parent participation in education and training opportunities and the frequency with which parents access student data.
- Increase student enrollment and attendance while reducing dropout rates and tardiness.
- Improve students' academic outcomes and experiences, as measured through test scores and survey results.

## **Building Capital in the Communitites We Serve**

### The Five Capitals

For a community to thrive, it must possess a balance of five different capitals: Human, Social, Political, Intellectual and Financial.

Green Dot is working to build each of these capitals for the students and families we serve in order to drive education reform.

#### **Human Capital**

An investment in the talents of individuals that includes adult literacy, English as a Second Language and job training programs.

#### **Social Capital**

In the communities Green Dot serves, individuals often struggle alone with their problems. There is a great need for new programs and institutions to help families connect with one another and to actively deal with these struggles together.

#### **Political Capital**

This is the ability to act in concert for the good of the whole. Members of a community must establish a "public life" that goes beyond passively casting a ballot and develops into an active voice in their own neighborhoods.

#### Intellectual Capital

We need to wed the intellectual resources of schools, universities, and think tanks to the creative spirit and entrepreneurial energies of the communities we serve to create thoughtful, yet do-able plans of action.

#### Financial Capital

In any community, finances take on two primary forms for social purposes – investments made and credits extended. To strengthen families, we need to work with public and private institutions to develop opportunities for job creation and wealth creation.

A community needs a balanced mix of human, social, political, intellectual and financial capital to be considered healthy. The starting place is building human and social capital, investing in an individual's skills and binding them cohesively together in the bonds of community. We do this with our Green Dot students. We are now making a concomitant investment in the adults.

The first step is simply getting mothers and fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers to come out of their homes and to attend something – to share the same public space with their neighbors and fellow parents.

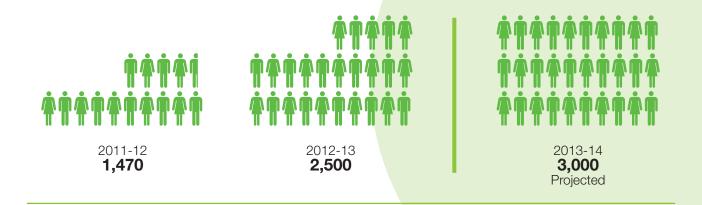
To start this process, first as spectators and then onto a continuum toward participation and involvement to engagement and action, we have created our Leadership Ladder.



We have a comprehensive strategy to help parents engage, and eventually change, their schools and their communities for the better.

### By the Numbers

## Parents Who Attended a Workshop or Event Increased 70%

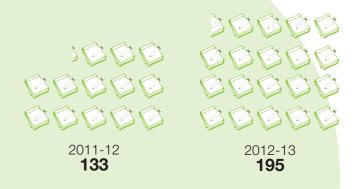


In 2011-2012, we were a small, pre-pilot program centered on 3 schools. 2012-2013 was Year 1 of a full investment in the various programs outlined in the following pages, including the Green Dot Community Organizing Institute, Ánimo Parent Academy, and the Parent Coordinator Professional Development Program. 6 schools piloted Ánimo Parent Leadership Teams. The projected growth rate for the 2013-2014 academic year is 20%.

## 900 Green Dot Parents Attended Three or More Workshops or Events This Year

This year, 2012-13, is our first year assessing engagement in this way. We plan to use repeated attendance as a metric to measure consistent involvement in future years.

## Parent Workshops Increased 47%



## Leadership Development and Community Organizing Trainings Increased 1050%

2011-2012: 4 2012-2013: 46

### **Total Number of ESL Graduates**

2011-2012: 0 2012-2013: 125

### Number of Community Partners Up By 77%

2011-2012: 22 2012-2013: 39

Total Cost to Parents: \$0

## Programs Available to All Green Dot Schools

Green Dot connects families with social service resources, but also understands that families need to develop lasting skills to positively impact their community and improve their lives. For student achievement to improve, we must address the social and economic issues students and families face outside the classroom.

The two prime tools we use to help families tackle these issues are Popular Education and Community Organizing.

Popular Education consists of systematic efforts to teach people practical skills and tools to aid and assist the development and advancement of their own families. Community Organizing is the practice of teaching people to form public relationships and to act collectively in the public arena for the greater good of the community.

The following Popular Education and Community Organizing programs are available to all Green Dot schools.

### **Popular Education Programs**

### **Ánimo Parent Academy**

In the summer of 2012, the CET developed a series of modules in collaboration with parent coordinators, counselors, administrators, and teachers on topics such as The Green Dot Difference, College Readiness, Supporting Your Student at Home, and School-Family Communication to empower parents to take an active role in their student's education. Ánimo Parent Academy workshops are delivered across the organization depending on parent needs and interests at each school site.

### **New Futuro Road to College Workshop**

On September 8, 2012, more than 120 Green Dot students and parents attended an interactive college-prep workshop, which outlined a 10-step plan that students and their families can follow to get into college. The workshop also taught families how to prepare, apply to, and pay for college, with information on financial aid, including how to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and apply for scholarships, grants and loans. An Ánimo Westside Charter Middle School student won a \$1000 scholarship from New Futuro

and Allstate. Participating schools: Alain LeRoy Locke College Prep Academy (including Locke 1, II, 3 and Locke Tech), Ánimo Phillis Wheatley Charter Middle School, Ánimo Watts College Prep Academy, Ánimo Western Charter Middle School, and Ánimo Westside Charter Middle School.

#### New Futuro College Prep Fair

On September 29, 2012, more than 800 Green Dot students and parents attended the New Futuro College Prep Fair. Families had the opportunity to meet with hundreds of bilingual representatives from universities, colleges, and community organizations, to attend bilingual workshops on college planning, to enter to win thousands of dollars in scholarships, and to participate in a televised town-hall education panel. Participating schools: Ánimo College Prep Academy, Ánimo Inglewood Charter High School, Ánimo Jackie Robinson Charter High School, Ánimo Jefferson Charter Middle School, Alain LeRoy Locke College Prep Academy (including Locke 1, II, 3 and Locke Tech), Ánimo Phillis Wheatley Charter Middle School, Ánimo Ralph Bunche Charter High School, Ánimo South Los Angeles Charter High School, Ánimo Venice Charter High School, Ánimo Watts College Prep Academy and Ánimo Western Charter Middle School.

### **Parent Coordinator Professional Development**

In the fall of 2012, the CET launched a robust professional development program for Parent Coordinators, including over 15 hours of training per year in strategic planning, developing community partnerships, organizational outreach, workshop planning, recruitment, and more. The trainings emphasize collaboration and the exchange of best practices to help Parent Coordinators serve families to the greatest extent possible.





## **Community Organizing Programs**

Green Dot has implemented several programs to teach families the skills of power and public life to effect change in their schools and communities.

These programs are enabling parents to collaborate with community members and other parents, not only at their own school sites, but across the Green Dot network.

### Green Dot Community Organizing Institute

In January of 2013, the CET launched the Community Organizing Institute, a program designed to help Green Dot parent and community leaders develop the tools necessary to advocate for themselves in order to improve their communities and to drive education reform in Los Angeles and beyond.

More than 40 parent leaders from an increasing number of Green Dot schools meet monthly. The following schools have participated thus far: Alain LeRoy Locke College Prep Academy (including the former Locke 1, II, 3 and Locke Tech), Ánimo College Prep Academy, Ánimo Inglewood Charter High School, Ánimo Jackie Robinson Charter High School, Ánimo Leadership Charter High School, Ánimo Ralph Bunche Charter High School, Ánimo South Los Angeles Charter High School, Ánimo Watts College Prep Academy, Ánimo Western Charter Middle School, and Ánimo Westside Charter Middle School.

## Parents Making an Impact



On May 25, 2013, more than 200 parents from the Locke Family of Schools community attended a disciplined, one-hour meeting on public safety issues. Led by two parent-chairs, the community made specific requests of Los Angeles Councilmember Bernard C. Parks and LAPD Southeast Division Captain Phillip Tingirides, who were invited to attend by parents.

Parents created and unveiled a "hot spot" map detailing high intensity crime areas near Alain LeRoy Locke College Prep Academy (including Locke 1, II, 3 and Locke Tech) and Ánimo Watts College Prep Academy.

After several moving testimonies from parents whose children had been victims of crime, the chairs made the groups' requests of the Councilmember and the Captain, who each committed to collaborating with parents to increase safety in the area.

The parents have planned a series of follow-up meetings to ensure progress is being made.



### Ánimo Parent Leadership Teams

In the fall of 2012, the CET began working with six schools to create an Ánimo Parent Leadership Team at each site. Each team is comprised of four to seven parents who receive extensive leadership development and community organizing training. This enables them to address the social problems plaguing their neighborhood, city, and even state, through collective action. Participating schools during the 2012-2013 academic year included Ánimo Jefferson Charter Middle School, Ánimo Leadership Charter High School, Ánimo Locke Tech Charter High School, Ánimo Ralph Bunche Charter High School, Ánimo South Los Angeles Charter High School, and Ánimo Watts College Prep Academy.

### **LAUSD School Board Meetings**

Green Dot parents have participated in a number of school board meetings to support the organization and encourage the board to make decisions in the best interest of students. A number of parent leaders have also spoken before the board. In November, more than 300 Green Dot parents turned out with other charter leaders and parents and defeated LAUSD Board Member Steve Zimmer's resolution to potentially restrict and bureaucratically stifle charter schools.

In addition to participating in Green Dot's multi-school programs, each school has developed its own parent engagement program to help parents take a more active role in their student's education and to move up the parent leadership ladder.

## School Specific Programs

#### Alain LeRoy Locke College Prep Academy

This is the former Ánimo Locke 1, Ánimo Locke II, Alain LeRoy Locke 3 and Ánimo Locke Tech for which LAUSD unanimously approved the charter renewal and reorganization into Alain LeRoy Locke College Prep Academy

- The Locke Wellness Center provides free, comprehensive and coordinated wrap-around services to all students, families and community members. These services are intended to help youth and adults improve their daily well-being and allow students to focus on their academic success.
  - Services include: Linkages to medical services (medical insurance eligibility screenings and enrollment in the Locke Wellness Center medical clinic), navigation services, ESL classes (60-70 parents enrolled), college readiness for youth in foster care, recreational activities, teen parent program, dating violence prevention, reproductive health education for students and parents, vision services, violence intervention, bullying prevention and truancy intervention. Partners include: Break the Cycle, COACH for Kids, Facing History and Ourselves, PIQE, Planned Parenthood Los Angeles, Shields for Families, United Friends of the Children, United Peace Officers Against Crime, Watts Century Latino Organization, Watts Healthcare Corporation, and Watts Willowbrook Boys & Girls Club.
- Monthly workshops: The Green Dot Difference, PowerSchool, healthy living and nutrition, financial literacy, healthy relationships, financial aid, college savings, bullying prevention, reproductive health and more. Partners include: LA Care, Kinecta Financial Services, Neighborhood Housing Service, Planned Parenthood, Watts Healthcare Corporation and the YWCA.
- More than 140 parents total from each of the Locke schools attended each of these workshops. Approximately 100 parents attended three or more workshops or events.
- PIQE Program: Sponsored by the Locke Wellness Center, PIQE offers a nine-week program
  for parents to help them become active participants in their children's education. Parents
  learn how to maintain relationships with school officials, how to create a home environment
  conducive to student learning, and how to apply for student financial aid. They also learn
  about the classes and tests students need to be eligible for college. In the fall of 2012, 67
  parents from Ánimo Locke Tech graduated. At the spring session, 168 parents from Ánimo
  Locke II and Locke 3 graduated.
- PIQE Financial Literacy Program: The additional six-hour program, held at Ánimo Locke
  Tech Charter High School, stresses basic money management techniques and how to
  create wealth through asset accumulation. Subjects include basic banking services such as
  checking and savings accounts, budgeting, financial planning, establishing and using credit,
  the importance of maintaining good credit, preventing identity theft, and loan options.
- Parent Leadership Team (Ánimo Locke Tech Charter High School): 15 parents received extensive leadership development and community organizing training, equipping them to

tackle the social problems that plague their neighborhood, city, and even state, through collective action.

- Immigration Information Session held on March 5th: 70 parents attended a free forum led by Catholic Charities which covered new updates in immigration laws, deferred action, provisional waivers, and citizenship. Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss their cases with an experienced immigration attorney.
- Parent Summit held on March 9th: Parents had the opportunity to learn more about the
  academic offerings, parent engagement, and campus safety for the upcoming year and to
  provide their input. Approximately 100 parents attended.
- Locke Leadership Council Meeting held on May 15th: More than 50 parents attended this
  meeting to provide input and plan parent programs for the following year.

### Ánimo College Prep Academy

- PIQE Program: PIQE creates partnerships between parents, students and educators
  to further students' academic success. The 9-week program also prepares parents to
  become active participants in their children's education. Participants learn how to maintain
  relationships with school officials, how to create a home environment conducive to student
  learning, and how to apply for student financial aid. They also learn about the classes and
  tests students need to be eligible for college. 69 parents graduated from the program in the
  fall of 2013.
- PIQE Financial Literacy Program: The six-hour program stresses basic money management techniques and how to create wealth through asset accumulation. Subjects include basic banking services such as checking and savings accounts, budgeting, financial planning, establishing and using credit, the importance of maintaining good credit, preventing identity theft, and loan options.

### Ánimo Inglewood

- Monthly teacher-led workshops on topics such as PowerSchool, college readiness, college applications and financial aid, summer resources and opportunities, goal-setting for extracurricular activities, scholarships, college and careers, etc.
- Parent Organization: Parents are organized into committees which help coordinate work on campus safety, beautification, office support, communication, etc. The organization meets monthly.
- On average, more than 45 parents attended each workshop and approximately 30 parents attended three or more workshops or events.

### Ánimo Jackie Robinson Charter High School

• Living Healthy and Wise: Parent workshop series facilitated by the Community Financial Resources Center with guest speakers from DPSS, Echo Center, Magnolia Place, FamilySource, WorkSource, City of LA, Bank on LA, EDD, California Hospital, and the

- Oscar Romero Clinic. The program is designed to help families balance work, family, and finances, with presentations on parenting, money management, family well-being, the business of running a family, and bringing in the money and protecting it.
- On average, more than 70 parents attended each workshop and approximately 35 parents attended three or more workshops or events.
- Approximately 25 families received turkeys for Thanksgiving through a partnership with Councilwoman Jan Perry.

#### Ánimo Jefferson Charter Middle School

- Parent Leadership Team: Parents receive extensive leadership development and community organizing training, equipping them to tackle the social problems that plague their neighborhood, city, and even state, through collective action. 6 primary parent leaders organize other parents and community members.
- Monthly workshops on topics such as College Knowledge, Family Communication, High School 101, Health & Nutrition, and PowerSchool. Partners include: Little Company of Mary and YWCA.
- On average, more than 120 parents attended each workshop and approximately 40 parents attended three or more workshops or events.
- ESL Class provided by Los Angeles Trade Tech College (LATTC): 15 parents enrolled.
- Parent Award Ceremony: Parents were recognized for their support at a mid-year and end of year ceremony.
- Approximately 25 families received turkeys for Thanksgiving through a partnership with Councilwoman Jan Perry.

### Ánimo Leadership Charter High School

- Monthly parent meetings led by the school's principal on topics such as the school strategic plan, state testing, how parents can support the school, grade level news, and college readiness.
- On average, more than 100 parents attended each workshop and approximately 30 parents attended three or more workshops.
- Parent Leadership Team: Five parent leaders being trained to plan, coordinate, and lead Ánimo Parent Academy workshops for other parents for the 2013-2014 academic year.

### Ánimo Pat Brown Charter High School

 Monthly parent meetings led by administrators, counselors, and staff on topics such as PowerSchool, parent-teacher conferences, SAT/ACT, financial aid, reading transcripts, college and career options and graduation requirements.

- On average, more than 90 parents attended each workshop and approximately 50 parents attended three or more workshops or events.
- Parents coordinated a final day luncheon for teachers to thank them for their work throughout the year.

### **Ánimo Phillis Wheatley Charter Middle School**

- Monthly workshops on topics such as PowerSchool, Drug Prevention, Understanding the CSTs, and Afterschool and Summer Community Programs. Partners include: Multicultural Service Center and Planned Parenthood.
- Por Tu Corazon: American Heart Association workshop series designed to raise awareness about heart disease. The program focuses on educating parents to live a healthier lifestyle by helping them assess and improve their own health.
- On average, more than 30 parents attended each workshop and approximately 20 parents attended three or more workshops or events.
- ESL and Civics Class provided by Los Angeles City College (LACC): 10 parents enrolled.

### Ánimo Ralph Bunche Charter High School

 PODER: Monthly parent summit, parents rotate between three workshops on topics such as community safety, bullying prevention, A-G requirements, college and financial aid, reading report cards, parent and teen communication, and gang prevention. Partners include: Planned Parenthood, GRYD, Worksite Wellness, Children's Collective, Champions for Change, Facing History and Ourselves, etc. The program was supported and served by a team of 25 volunteer students from all grade levels.

Parents who participated were recognized with a Certificate of Participation and an end of the year culmination ceremony. The total attendance during the 2012-2013 academic year was 256 parents.

- Safe and Healthy Bunche: Program in which parents walk to and from the most frequented student pathways to ensure safe passages while improving their overall health. Following the walk, parents participate in interactive workshops on health and nutrition, community safety, financial education, and more. Partners include: Broadway Federal Bank, California Hospital, Champions for Change, GRYD, Haven Neighborhood Services, LA Care, Little Company of Mary, Norwood Healthy Start, Worksite Wellness, YWCA, etc. On average, 10-20 parents attended each session.
- ESL Class provided by LATTC: 15 parents enrolled.
- Parent Leadership Team: Parents receive extensive leadership development and community organizing training, equipping them to tackle the social problems that plague their neighborhood, city, and even state, through collective action. Six primary parent leaders organize other parents and community members.

- Approximately 40 families received turkeys for Thanksgiving through a partnership with Councilwoman Jan Perry.
- Bullying Summit: Three parent leaders were selected to accompany the Principal to participate in a bullying summit and discussion forum.
- Approximately 20 parents have attended three or more events or workshops.

### Ánimo South Los Angeles Charter High School

- Monthly Workshops on topics such as Community Safety and Health and Nutrition.
   Partners include: Worksite Wellness, Little Company of Mary, and South Bay Family Health Care.
- On average, more than 25 parents attended each workshop and approximately 15 parents attended three or more workshops or events.
- Parent Leadership Team: Parents receive extensive leadership development and community organizing training, equipping them to tackle the social problems that plague their neighborhood, city, and even state, through collective action. Four primary parent leaders organize fellow parents and community members.
- ESL and Civics Class provided by LACC: 10 parents enrolled.

### Ánimo Venice Charter High School

- Monthly teacher and parent-coordinator led workshops on topics such as: How to prepare your child for college, PowerSchool, attendance and discipline, state testing, DREAM Act, bullying prevention, nutrition, how to discipline your child, and SART.
- Parent Corner: Information area created in collaboration with ARC afterschool program for parents about programs and services.
- Zumba classes for parents.
- Nearly 75 parents attended each workshop or class with approximately 70 parents attending three or more events.
- Annual spring family festival and fundraiser: more than 400 people attended.

### Ánimo Watts College Prep Academy

• Sponsored in part by the Locke Wellness Center, parents took part in the PIQE program, a nine-week course for parents to help them become active participants in their children's education. Parents learn how to maintain relationships with school officials, how to create a home environment conducive to student learning, and how to apply for student financial aid. They also learn about the classes and tests students need to be eligible for college. In the fall of 2012, 109 parents graduated from the program. The following spring session, 78 parents graduated.

- PIQE Financial Literacy Program: The additional six-hour program stresses basic money
  management techniques and how to create wealth through asset accumulation. Subjects
  include basic banking services such as checking and savings accounts, budgeting,
  financial planning, establishing and using credit, the importance of maintaining good credit,
  preventing identity theft, and loan options.
- Parent Summit: Two Saturdays a year, parents attended a series of workshops on topics such as Communicating with Your Child, Accepting Diversity in the Community, Mental Health, Self Defense, and Financial Planning. Parents also had the opportunity to speak with organizations such as A Place Called Home, Haven Neighborhood Services, Multicultural Service Center, PFLAG, Planned Parenthood, Worksite Wellness, and YWCA in a resource fair. Approximately 50 parents attended each summit.
- Parent Leadership Team: Parents receive extensive leadership development and community
  organizing training, equipping them to tackle the social problems that plague their
  neighborhood, city, and even state, through collective action. 4 primary parent leaders
  organize other parents and community members.

### Ánimo Western Charter Middle School

- Monthly workshops on topics such as emergency preparedness, financial literacy, supporting your student at home, middle school 101, healthcare resources in Los Angeles County and saving for college. Partners include: Kinecta Financial Services and Haven Neighborhood Services.
- On average, more than 35 parents attended each workshop and approximately 20 parents attended three or more workshops or events.
- ESL and Civics Class provided by LACC: 18 parents enrolled.

### Ánimo Westside Charter Middle School

- Workshops on topics such as PowerSchool and nutrition and fitness.
- Nearly 50 parents attended each workshop or class with approximately 25 parents attending three or more events.
- A 25-parent strong organization dedicated to fundraising.
- Second annual spring family festival and fundraiser led by the school's parent coordinator and a team of parents: more than 300 people attended.

### Oscar De La Hoya Ánimo Charter High School

- Monthly parent teacher organization meetings on topics such as cyberbullying, reproductive health, parent-teen communication, nutrition and fitness, and community resources.
- On average, more than 70 parents attended each workshop and approximately 30 parents attended three or more workshops or events.
- ESL class provided by LATTC: 25 parents enrolled.

### The Community Engagement Team

**Larry Fondation,** Director of Community Engagement

Veronica Toledo, Parent and Community Engagement Manager

Cecilia Vazquez, Community Engagement Manager

Karen Robinson, Community Engagement Manager

Gloria Jackson, Community Engagement Administrator

Elizabeth Castro, Community Engagement Assistant

### **Parent Coordinators**

Landy Gutierrez, Animo Charter Middle School 2

Brenda Serrato, Ánimo Jefferson Charter Middle School

Wendy Campo, Ánimo Phillis Wheatley Charter Middle School

Noe Cardona, Ánimo Western Charter Middle School

Geraldine Silva, Ánimo Westside Charter Middle School

Maritza Lopez, Alain LeRoy Locke College Prep - Academy A

Marisol Almanza, Alain LeRoy Locke College Prep - Academy B

Marialena Berry, Alain LeRoy Locke College Prep - Academy C

Christina Avila, Alain LeRoy Locke College Prep - 9th Grade Academy

Flor Gomez, Ánimo College Prep Academy

Jasper De Jesus, Ánimo Inglewood Charter High School

Cecilia Levya, Ánimo Jackie Robinson Charter High School

Iracema Alvarado, Ánimo Leadership Charter High School

Lety Nolasco, Ánimo Pat Brown Charter High School

Martha Zambrano, Ánimo Ralph Bunche Charter High School

Jesse Tejeda, Animo South Los Angeles Charter High School

Eddie Velasquez, Ánimo Watts College Prep Academy

Juanita Garcia, Ánimo Venice Charter High School

Nallely Bravo, Oscar de la Hoya Ánimo Charter High School

### **Partners**

Green Dot has recruited the following partners to provide programs and services to further its goal of engaging parents.

A Place Called Home

All People's Community Center

**American Heart Association** 

**Broadway Federal Bank** 

California Hospital Medical Center

Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc.

**Champions for Change** 

Children's Collective

Community Financial Resources Center

Facing History and Ourselves

GRYD: Gang Reduction Youth Development

Haven Neighborhood Services

**Hoop Foundation** 

Kinecta Federal Credit Union

LA Care

Los Angeles Community College

Los Angeles Trade Technical College

Los Angeles Police Department

Little Company of Mary

**Multicultural Service Center** 

Neighborhood Housing Service

New Futuro

Norwood Healthy Start

PCI: People for Community Improvement

PFLAG: Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

PIQE: Parent Institute for Quality Education

Planned Parenthood

St. John's Well Child & Family Center

St. Vincent Medical Center

Shields for Families

South Bay Family Health Care

Street Positive

Watts Century Latino Organization

Watts Gang Taskforce

Watts Healthcare Corporation

We Care Outreach Ministries

West Athens-Westmont

Community Taskforce

Worksite Wellness LA

YWCA

